



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

Office of Communications • Mark Dallas Loeffler, Director
1700 N. Congress Ave. • Austin, TX 78701-1495 • 512-463-5339 • FAX: 512-475-1415

MEDIA ADVISORY

D-Day veterans to speak at 70th anniversary film

WWII soldiers will commemorate invasion via Texas' largest screen, are available for interviews

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Contact: Jim Suydam
512-463-2716
jim.suydam@glo.texas.gov

AUSTIN, Texas —



Two of the men who fought in history's biggest amphibious invasion will commemorate its 70th anniversary in front of the largest movie screen in Texas.

D-Day veterans Robert Bearden, author and former POW, and John Marino will participate in a panel discussion following a screening of the new IMAX film "D-Day 3D: Normandy 1944." (Bearden, of Belton, and Marino, of Houston, are available for interviews, and will be in uniform for photos prior to the screening.)

Sponsored by the Texas VLB's Voices of VeteransTM oral history program, the movie starts at 2 p.m. Friday, June 6, at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800

N. Congress Ave. The panel, featuring the two veterans, will take place immediately following the movie.

“D-Day changed the course of the Second World War, as well as human history,” said James Crabtree, Coordinator of the Voices of Veterans Program. “We invite anyone who values the contributions of these brave men to come learn more about the invasion of Normandy from those who experienced it firsthand.”

There will also be an interactive Voices of Veterans display on the 2nd floor, where moviegoers may hear recollections of combat veterans – from WWII to Iraq – and learn about preserving their stories for future generations.

Reservations are required (see Web link to RSVP and payment options below). Though the movie is free to all veterans and active military personnel, admission charges apply to the general public. For information call 512-936-4649. The panel discussion portion of the event is free.

About the movie: “D-Day 3D: Normandy 1944” brings the Normandy invasion to life. Narrated by Tom Brokaw and blending animation and live action, the 45-minute film examines how the summer of 1944 changed the course of world history. For a preview visit http://youtu.be/KfvyDRX8_qA.

About the Voices of Veterans program: The Voices of Veterans oral history program seeks to record the stories of Texas veterans and archive the transcripts in the Office of Veterans Records for future researchers, historians, genealogists and the general public. Any interested veteran may contact the Texas VLB at 1-800-252-VETS (8387), or send an e-mail to vlbinfo@glo.texas.gov. Visit <http://www.glo.texas.gov/voices-of-veterans> for more information.

WHO: Two veterans of the invasion of Normandy

WHAT: 70th anniversary of D-Day event, featuring movie and panel discussion

WHEN: 2 p.m. Friday, June 6

WHERE: Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress Ave.

COST: Free to veterans and active and reserve members of the Armed Forces

RSVP: Call (512)936-4649 or online at:

<http://www.thestoryoftexas.com/plan-your-visit/calendar-of-events/icalrepeat.detail/2014/06/06/118065/-/d-day-70th-anniversary-commemoration>

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